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## The Inkwell

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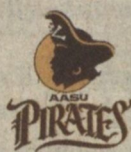
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**Spring Open Mic Nights  
off to hectic start**  
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**Pirates take on Lander  
in double 'blackout' match**  
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Established in 1935

# THE INKWELL

Week of January 27, 2011

theinkwellonline.com

Volume 80, Issue 3

## Students expand horizons through study abroad fair



Left: Armstrong students visit Frederiksborg Castle and its baroque gardens in Hillerød, Denmark, in May 2005. Right: Armstrong students visit the Ming-era main hall of the Temple of Heaven, in Temple of Heaven Park, just south of Tiananmen Square in Beijing in May 2008.

By Brittany Redding

Imagine having a literature lesson on the coast of Ireland, learning about health care in Denmark from a Danish politician or experiencing Shakespeare in his very own city. This may seem like the stuff movies are made of, but these are all things that Armstrong students can experience through studying abroad.

Armstrong held its Spring Study Abroad Fair on Wednesday, Jan. 19. The event provided students with the opportunity to learn about individual programs, their costs and their direc-

tors. Financial Aid representatives were also available to discuss different funding options. Armstrong offers multiple trips each year to China, Spain, Costa Rica, Ireland, England and many more countries.

If students missed the Study Abroad Fair, they are encouraged to visit the Office of International Education in Gamble Hall room 204 to speak with someone about offered programs and financial options. The deadline for having an application to a specific program on file as well as the STARS scholarship closes Feb. 15.

Kristin Kasting, assistant

director of International Education at Armstrong, encourages students to study abroad. She said she knows they won't regret it.

"I've never had anyone study abroad and say 'Oh I wish I hadn't,'" she said. "I know a lot of people who are no longer in college who say, 'Oh I wish I would have. Had I known what that experience would have given me, I would have done that.'"

Kasting believes that the increasing market for global perspectives is a major incentive for studying abroad.

"There is a huge importance because I think it's important for people to ex-

perience cultures other than their own," she said. "You can't appreciate. You can't really be objective about why cultures are the way that they are until you've experienced them and understand the genesis of some of those behaviors."

Richard McGrath, a professor of economics at Armstrong, will go on his ninth study abroad trip this year. McGrath enjoys teaching in different ways and finds that study abroad gives him a creative outlet for his work.

"It's just this really cool part of the educational process to expose students to something that is so com-

pletely different than what they have experienced before," he said.

McGrath also feels that studying abroad opens the door to a better working relationship between student and teacher.

"You get a very different perspective on students traveling with them rather than just having them in class," he said. "It's just a much better working relationship after that because you've got some other connection where you spent a lot of time together doing other things."

Armstrong students who experience study abroad for

**ABROAD | PAGE 8**

## Check Inside

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First Chatham, welcomes  
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## Campus Briefs

**Armstrong wins moot court  
competition**

Armstrong's team won first place at the American Collegiate Moot Court Association's National Tournament, hosted by Tulane University Law School on Jan. 24. Junior LaRon Dunham and senior William Grimm participated in the written competition, which included creative legal finagling around issues including same-sex marriage and health-care laws. The duo topped the competition, defeating 19 teams from other colleges across the nation.

**Multicultural Affairs  
offers trip to MLK lecture**

On Thursday, Jan. 27, the Office of Multicultural Affairs will take Armstrong students to the Georgia Southern University Performing Arts Center for a lecture on Martin Luther King Jr. by civil-rights activist Angela Davis. Transportation will leave the Student Union at 5 p.m. Seating is limited.

**Armstrong hosts faculty  
lecture series**

Armstrong kicks off its 2011 faculty lecture series on Friday, Jan. 28, at 12:10 p.m. Associate Professor of Medical Technology Hassan Aziz will present "Infections That Shaped the World" in University Hall room 156. The lecture will use historical and scientific information to focus on the sources and impacts of various infections.

**SGA applications deadline  
approaches**

Applications for Student Government Associations' spring elections are due Wednesday, Feb. 2, at 5 p.m. Applications must be submitted to the Student Union and Activities Office in MCC room 201.

## Crime Blotter

**Police investigate thefts,  
property damage**

By F. Reese Shellman III  
News.Inkwell@gmail.com

University Police responded to a call from Compass Point on Jan. 9. Three roommates claimed that two textbooks and a silver iPod went missing from their apartment over winter break. The textbooks were the same edition of a chemistry book.

Other valuables in the apartment were untouched.

All four tenants of the room said they had no visitors over the break. They believed someone had visited the apartment to clean it.

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## SGA hears Bleicken's goals for Armstrong

By Brad Curran

On Monday, Jan. 24, the Student Government Association heard from university President Linda Bleicken regarding Armstrong's strategic plan. The plan is a set of goals established by the university to better meet the academic needs of its students.

"This is essentially a vision plan that the university establishes every three to five years that we really need to see from the university every few years about what their goals are," SGA President Zerik Samples said.

Bleicken gave a presentation  
**SGA | PAGE 2**

## Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity gives to Bethesda boys

By Krystal Huertas

The Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity hosted a charity event, "Pike Presents," Sunday, Jan. 23, at the Bethesda Home for Boys on Ferguson Avenue. "Pike Presents" is an event during which members of Pi Kappa Alpha meet with the boys of Bethesda, play a game of basketball with them and give presents.

Pi Kappa Alpha sponsors the event annually. Every year the fraternity raises between \$3,000 to \$4,000 for the boys' home. The fraternity collects the donations through fundraisers throughout the year. It also receives funds for the event from local businesses.

The Bethesda Home for Boys has operated continuously since its founding in 1740 by English minister George Whitefield. Bethesda is the nation's oldest children's charity.

Ben C., a student at Bethesda graduating soon, hopes to get a basketball scholarship to Clemson University.

"Bethesda has changed my life," he said. "Before coming here, grades did not matter to me. Bethesda has opened my eyes to a bigger and better world."

Douglas Brown, Pi Kappa Alpha's alumni adviser, said the fraternity has worked with Bethesda since the 1970s.

Bethesda has its own bas-



Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity hands out gifts to students at the Bethesda Home for Boys before engaging in a friendly basketball game with the high schoolers on Jan. 24.

ketball team, the Bethesda Blazers, who played against members of Pi Kappa Alpha in Sunday's event. The Bethesda boys have real talent and win every year against Pi Kappa Alpha.

Recently the team also placed 5-0 in its league, GISA Region 4 GISA-AAA.

"I enjoy this event every year," said Trey Purvis, a member of Pi Kappa Alpha. "It's fun to hang out with the kids. The most entertaining part of the basketball game is that we lose every year."

Principal and Vice President of Operations Kelly Burke said the kids look forward to the event every year.

"The boys in the fraternity never lose their sense

of play and that is something they have in common with the boys of Bethesda," Burke said.

Several members of Pi Kappa Alpha said that they want to see success and hope to make an impact in the lives of the Bethesda boys.

Colin Barnes, a junior and member of Pi Kappa Alpha eats breakfast and practices pointers with the boys. He even spends some of his Friday nights with them.

Pi Kappa Alpha's commitment to the community extends beyond the Bethesda Home for Boys. Members have participated in numerous charities from feeding dogs at the Humane Society to selling wristbands for

breast cancer awareness. They have even helped in nursing homes.

Oscar Crosby, a senior and the internal vice president of Pi Kappa Alpha, wants to show that there is another side to Greek life. "We have a lot to offer the community in terms of giving back," he said.

President of Pi Kappa Alpha and senior Scott Amick said that the fraternity does a lot of hard work, but it brings people together, while building character and memories. The fraternity plans on doing more charity events in the future.



NEWS

**Jan. 28:** The Armstrong Common Read program will screen the documentary “Trouble the Water” in the Ogeechee Theater at 1 p.m.  
**Jan. 31:** The Student Government Association will hold a meeting at noon in Savannah Ballroom A.  
**Feb. 2:** Applications for SGA due by 5 p.m.

Black History Month Festival kicks off with performance of social reformers

By Ella Greer

The Fine Arts Auditorium was a full house Saturday, Jan. 22. The theatrical premiere of “Words Between Two Reformers: Mary McLeod Bethune and Eleanor Roosevelt” was one of the many events that make up the Black Heritage Festival. The festival is hosted by the City of Savannah and Savannah State University. The performance was a depiction of the lives of Eleanor Roosevelt, played by Linda Kenyon, and Mary McLeod Bethune, played by Ysaye M. Barnwell, and the friendship the two women had. It was a give-and-take relationship for Bethune. She had a social platform that was in need of being heard, and the First Lady had just the voice and connections for doing so. The reading began with Roosevelt saying, “I have never wanted to be a man. I have always wanted the power to help social change, but I never thought that wearing trousers was the

only way to do so.” The performance ended when Bethune wondered what her legacy would be. “I leave you love, hope, confidence and a thirst for education,” she said. Armstrong parents, students and professors alike agreed the play was relevant for the trials and concepts of everyday life. “The play was informative,” Armstrong student Victoria Langston said. “Knowing the background of a strong African-American leader will give us the information we need to excel in our futures.” “We need this for our children,” parent Diann Alvin-Murphy said. “Because of Mary’s persistence, because she stayed true to who she was, she got what she wanted.” Armstrong student Bobbie Renee Stringer enjoyed hearing about Roosevelt and took comfort in knowing that growing up is awkward for everyone, even great women who fought for civil rights and changed the course of history.

“I knew about them as individuals and their friendship. It gave insight of a society,” said Michael Benjamin, assistant professor of history at Armstrong. He said that the play helped him understand the power of women, and he was interested in the contrast of their lives. “The program is relevant to my classes because of the idea and practice of freedom,” Benjamin said. “The play is proof that performance has the potential to be taken as historical knowledge.” After the performance, writer Jewell Robinson and the actresses participated in a question and answer session. “There was a meeting of the minds,” said Barnwell. “Women and race were important issues in their lives. The women empowered each other, and there were ripple effects because of the relationship of these women.” “It took a year of thinking and two months of writing. A research assistant and I

garnered the information, and then I began writing,” Robinson said when asked about the process that she went through to complete the script. “I do not rewrite their words, I just put them in a context that the modern world can understand,” Robinson said. “Exceptional, engaging, exciting. I did not know what to expect when I came here,” said attorney Lester B. Johnson III. Johnson said both women peaked his interest. He was curious about Eleanor and why she risked being an outcast to be friends with Bethune. “I understand Bethune’s drive,” Johnson said. “I wish younger people were here, and I am glad that I came. The way it’s presented is easy to learn about history.” The next event in the Black History Festival series is a dance performance on Tuesday, Feb. 1, in the Johnny Mercer Theater at the Savannah Civic Center. The event is free but requires tickets due to limited seating.

Campus Life

Where we ask you what you think.  
Reported by Andrea Cervone  
Photo.Inkwell@gmail.com

Voices on Campus

“What do you do on cold, rainy days?”



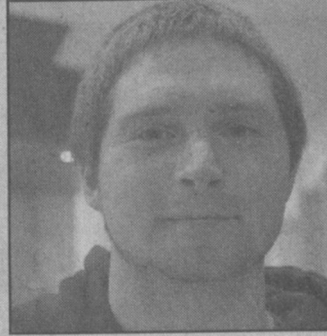
“I sit in my room and hermit generally, or stomp in puddles with my cool rain boots.”  
Lita Gentry, psychology, freshman



“It doesn’t affect my general activities.”  
Wesley Farrer, chemistry, junior



“I play in the rain. I enjoy it. What else can you do?”  
Hannah Price, psychology, freshman



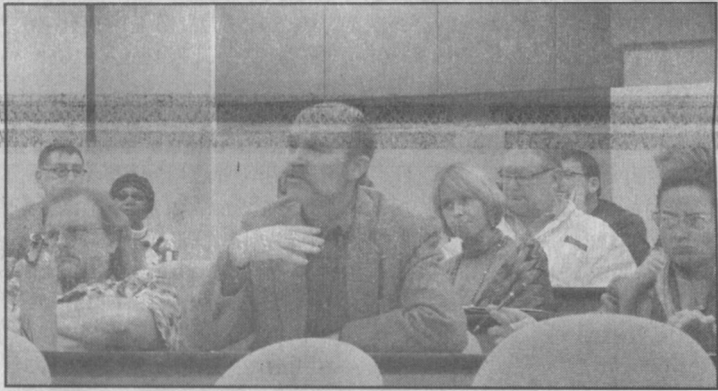
“Whatever I damn well please.”  
Zach Williams, biology, sophomore

University solicits ideas for quality enhancement plan

By Angela Kaiser

Have an idea on ways Armstrong can enhance student learning? Students, faculty, staff, alumni and members of the community now have an opportunity to share their input. Since 2007, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges has required educational institutions to implement a quality enhancement plan as part of their reaffirmation of accreditation. With the reaffirmation procedure beginning for Armstrong, the university has designated a steering committee to solicit proposals. The process began Jan. 21, when Nancy Remler, chair of the Steering Committee, outlined the process in an open forum on campus. Remler said that QEPs are “a carefully designed course of action that addresses a well-defined and focused topic related to enhancing student learning.” SACS describes student learning as changes in knowledge, skills, behaviors and values.

Armstrong’s road to developing a QEP will involve a multi-tiered, three-step review process. The first stage is for the steering committee to gather ideas from the Armstrong community through a one-page initial proposal submitted online. Faculty, staff, students, alumni and members of the community are invited to participate by sharing their suggestions, Remler said. “There are many people out there who have good ideas,” said John Kraft, interim assistant vice president for Academic Affairs. “We want them to be able to contribute in some way. This gives people an opportunity to make one of their good ideas a reality. There has not always been a place for that idea. This is a chance to make a place for a big idea.” The committee will give the community a month to submit their plan. “After Feb. 21, the committee will meet again to review and make sure that the proposals meet the basic requirements and is a broad-scale project that works to improve student learning,” Remler said. On March 4, the committee



will hold a roundtable discussion to display the remaining propositions, giving the Armstrong community an opportunity to hear the ideas and give feedback. The set up will be a “speed-dating kind of setting with different proposals at different tables,” Remler said. It then will be up to the individuals who made the suggestion to gather the feedback and use it, Remler said. “They will need to revise and flesh out their ideas to make it more specific and concrete,” she said. The committee will have until April 4 to turn in its final, five-page proposals, which should include four specific sections: a description of a need, preferably based on research or data, methods of implementing the QEP, expected outcomes and potential assessment. However, current budget issues could become a problem. Anne Thompson, interim vice president for Academic Affairs, said that the QEPs must fall within the current budget parameters. Chemistry professor Suzy Carpenter said, “Really? No money?” “No money,” Thompson said. “Whatever plan we choose, we must keep the budget in mind.” Although the QEP does not have to “touch all 7,700 students, we do have to pull the

What are QEPs?

According to the SACS website, the QEP is the “component of the accreditation process that reflects and affirms the commitment ... to the enhancement of the quality of higher education and to the proposition that student learning is at the heart of the mission.” Important qualities of a QEP: •specify realistic, measurable student-learning outcomes appropriate for their topic •transform improvements in student learning •include broad-based institutional participation •review of research and best practices on topic •identify and maintain adequate resources to develop, implement, and sustain QEP at Armstrong •outline a clear timeline and assignment of tasks •establish a structure for evaluating the goals set for the plan and use them to see the goals are attained Interested individuals can go to Armstrong’s QEP website at armstrong.edu/QEP to submit proposals. The page also links to the approved QEPs of other universities within the SACS eleven-state region is also available at the site.

Timeline of QEP

**Jan. 21:** QEP Steering Committee held open forum, explained process  
**Feb. 21:** Deadline for applicants to submit their initial, one-page proposal online at armstrong.edu/QEP  
**March 4:** Roundtable discussion and presentation open to students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members to give attendees an opportunity to review submissions and offer feedback  
**April 4:** Deadline for applicants to submit their final revised, five-page proposal  
**May 2:** Committee’s goal for submitting the chosen QEP to the SACS Executive Committee

QEP | PAGE 8

Armstrong banking, ATM services switch hands

By Joselynn McKenna

Bank of America will soon provide campus banking and ATM services rather than First Chatham Bank. Armstrong Vice President for Business and Finance David Carson said the change will take time. “The process of changing banks does not happen overnight,” he said. “It will take approximately 30 to 60 days to complete the transition to Bank of America.” Carson went on to say the change was a result of a state-mandated bidding process that occurs every five years, not a campus selection process. “The current contract period for the banking services had expired, and we needed

to bid the services,” Carson said. “The reason for the change was that the Bank of America was the winning bidder in the bid process.” One major change students, staff and faculty can expect to see as a result of the transition is one less ATM on campus, leaving just one Bank of America ATM. The only ATM on campus will be located in the Student Union. Carson said that of the four banks that bid, none were willing to offer more than one ATM without an additional fee to the university due to the volume of traffic on campus. Previously, First Chatham Bank offered both ATMs to the university without additional charge. Reactions to the switch

varied greatly from person to person depending on a person’s own banking choices. All the same, many agree the change to a national bank will be preferable to most students and faculty. Senior Madeline Stacy was excited to hear of the upcoming change. “Well, I bank at Bank of America — have been there since I was 16 years old and am 21 now — so I’m excited about the convenience factor that the new ATM will bring,” she said. Stacy said the change will save her about \$6 a month in ATM fees. She also said that since most of her friends do their banking at Bank of America, she guesses most students will feel positively about the change.

Student Leona Humphries, administrative assistant of the Department of Language, Literature, and Philosophy, said she would have preferred if banking services were going to Wells-Fargo, her bank of choice. However, she believes Bank of America to be an improvement from First Chatham Bank. “I like the fact that they’re going with a national bank,” Humphries said. “I think it will be helpful to a lot more students, staff and faculty, because most probably do bank with a national institution.” Carson said the university will make a campus announcement when the transition is closer to completion.

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regarding Armstrong’s strategic plan to the SGA. Among what it laid out were Armstrong’s “Five Strategic Goals,” which include: -Fostering student success -Supporting and strengthening teaching and learning -Modernizing and expanding technologies campus wide -Strengthening and diversifying financial bases and resources -Enhancing the university’s image and visibility

Bleicken said that meeting

these goals are a challenge for budgetary reasons. “There’s the possibility of a budget shortfall this semester that could prove difficult for us to meet some of these goals, similar to what we experienced last year, so we’re having to work our way through that possibility,” Bleicken said. Samples said, “The Board of Regents are responsible for allocating the budgets of all the colleges in Georgia, and the country’s economic situation is still taking its toll on education.”



## EDITORIALS & OPINIONS

The Inkwell welcomes and invites letters to the editor. All submissions must be less than 350 words, and they must be signed. E-mail your submission to [chief.inkwell@gmail.com](mailto:chief.inkwell@gmail.com).

Opinions expressed in op/ed columns or in editorial cartoons do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the newspaper.

The Inkwell reserves the right to edit for grammar and spelling.

# Involved community necessary for university growth

The Inkwell Editorial Board

What does it mean to be an active participant in campus life?

Recently, the university's marketing department has been hard at work promoting the appeal of being an Armstrong student. Signs scattered over I-16 and I-95, among many other places boldly display what seems to be our school's new maxim: "Pursuing a career + plugged-in Savannah = Armstrong."

These advertisements help bring in new students and staff, and with them new ideas. All these promotions and renovations work to morph Armstrong's image from commuter campus to traditional campus.

It's hard to imagine a traditional college atmosphere without a student body heavily involved in campus organizations. Writing in promotional brochures conveys Armstrong as a conventional college with small class sizes, and a unique atmosphere teeming with student activities and organizations.

It's certainly not an understatement. Our university is lucky to have an

active student government association, a campus union board that regularly organizes entertainment, Greek organizations and myriad arts and culture clubs.

And just this past year Armstrong opened the doors of the Student Union, a facility bricked and mortared with the spirit of community.

Let's not forget Windward Commons. The newly constructed freshmen-only dormitory breaks from Armstrong's traditional apartment-style housing. The administration even started requiring non-local freshmen to live at school, a policy presumably aiming to enrich student life by bolstering the on-campus community.

But for Armstrong to turn into the full-blown traditional university that it's marketed as, the student body needs to put in the same amount of effort as the administration.

There is, paradoxically, disconnect between the student body and Armstrong's many student organizations. The university must bridge this rift to continue to grow, thrive and evolve.

Many clubs and organizations outside the jurisdiction of Student Activities are not established enough, organized enough or promoted enough to rein in the participation typical of a traditional university's community.

The blame lies mostly with the student body, many of whom seem oblivious to Armstrong's breadth of clubs and organizations. Beckoning organizations surround the student population, waiting for them to jump in and participate. The students, meanwhile, often ignore the very opportunities that they themselves have said that they want from their campus.

Events occur everyday on campus. Opportunities for entertainment and extracurricular activities abound. There are free movies and parties. Where are the students?

It might be that some organizations just don't market themselves as well as the university markets itself.

Because of limited school funding, some organizations place promotion costs squarely on their members. For small groups, advertising even by just pinning

flyers to walls can quickly become expensive. In such cases, many thriving groups have sought donations and larger membership contributions.

In this regard, the University should find more reliable ways to help clubs and organizations grow and expand. Armstrong's sheer gumption to create the traditional college atmosphere has brought in hundreds of new faces and more funding to improve campus life. In the future, perhaps more of that income will be allocated to student organizations.

While some groups might be barely visible, they still exist.

Students who want to take a more active role in campus life just need to start paying more attention.



Illustration by Gabrielle Hague

Know something The Inkwell should cover? E-mail [news.inkwell@gmail.com](mailto:news.inkwell@gmail.com) and let us know.

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### JUDD PUBLISHING

Printer

## Let's ax the 'blue law' already

The Inkwell Editorial Board

Super Bowl Sunday is just around the corner. Remember to buy your adult beverages beforehand. With luck, though, you won't have to next year. On Jan. 24, the state Senate filed legislation that, if passed, will authorize local governments to allow their constituents to determine whether or not beer, wine and liquor can be sold in stores on Sundays.

It's about time.

Georgia is one of only three states that still enforce alcohol "blue laws" on Sundays.

Lawmakers in previous sessions allegedly didn't move to repeal Georgia's rusty blue law for fear of ex-Governor Sonny Perdue — a Republican who touted the merits of limited government, no less — uncapping his ominous veto pen. Maybe now, in the morning hours of a newly minted, even more conservative state government, retailers can finally pry the bars off the beer coolers on Sundays.

When economic conditions are sour, it's imperative that business owners make every available dollar. And let's be honest, right now Georgia's economy is about as warm and welcoming as the winter weather.

Prohibition died almost 80 years ago. What's the point in denying cash-strapped merchants easy income? Grocery and convenience stores take unnecessary hits each Sunday, but at least they still make money selling non-alcoholic goods. Bars and liquor stores — often operated by small business owners — can't even open on Sundays. Georgia's blue law leaves these legitimate storeowners high and dry for a whole day of business each week.

Savannah's a bona-fide watering hole. Allowing stores to sell alcohol on Sundays would undoubtedly be a boon for the local economy. It might not be a huge bump in income, but every cent helps business owners in today's bleak economy.

The Georgia legislature

also needs to think about the fiscal welfare of the state. The government taxes alcohol more than other products. The government would pull extra income off relaxing the regulation. People who want to drink on Sundays are going to do so. Right now, the desperate can do one of two things: drive well into South Carolina to buy a six-pack or truck it to a booze-selling family restaurant.

This, of course, also raises a question of public safety. In December, the Savannah Morning News reported that Savannah-Chatham police made 17 percent more DUI arrests in 2010 than the previous year. More disturbingly, the police departments of Garden City and Port Wentworth both reported a more-than-50-percent increase in DUI arrests over the same time period.

Repealing Georgia's blue laws won't fix this problem. People choose to drink and drive seven days a week. But if the option existed, might a potential drunk driver choose to buy a case

and watch the Super Bowl from the couch instead of Applebee's?

If this new legislation makes it to Governor Deal's desk and gets his signature, the fate of Sunday alcohol sales in stores will be in our hands. Local governments will be able to open up the decision to allow district-by-district sales to Georgia's taxpaying voters, and that's the way it should be.

Most of Georgia's other blue laws have been repealed. Their time clearly had come in an increasingly secular culture. It's time for alcohol sales to follow suit.

In a nod to tradition, we suppose, this legislation doesn't entirely alienate archaic sentiments — alcohol sales would still be outlawed on Sunday mornings. But that's not the end of the world. Most of us don't consider Miller High Life an essential part of a balanced breakfast.

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SPORTS

Jan. 29: Women's Basketball at North Georgia, 1:30 p.m.,  
Men's Basketball at North Georgia, 3:30 p.m.  
Feb. 2: Women's Basketball at Flagler, 5:30 p.m.  
Men's Basketball at Flagler, 7:30 p.m.

# Pirates pull another win against UNC-Pembroke

## 65-67 win places men in second place of Peach Belt East standings

By TeOsha Mayo

So far, the men's Pirates basketball team record is 11-5. On Jan. 22, Armstrong hosted UNC-Pembroke and came out with another win. The leading scorers were Chris Vanlandingham with 15 points, Chris Edwards right behind him with 14, and Jesse Wheeler and Brett Goodwell both with 10 points.

On top of the 10 points he scored, Goodwell also had three assists and four blocks. Wheeler had three assists and one block. In the end, the Pirates trumped UNC-Pembroke 67-65. It might be only two points, but the players and coaches say a win is a win.

The game started off a little rocky for both teams. After getting a handle on things, though, the Pirates maintained a good lead for a while, but Pembroke began catching up. By halftime Armstrong led 27-22.

Pirates Head Coach Jeremy Luther said the men should be better at playing while they have the lead. Luther said the team has

had the problem of letting their opponents catch up from a 10-or-more-point lead in several games, but they are making progress.

Chris Vanlandingham is satisfied with the win and his team's progress.

"We're working hard, and we keep improving," he said.

Even though the team has had far more wins than losses and has made a lot of progress since last season, the players all seem to be open to enhancing their skills.

"You can always do better," said Goodwell, who intends to work on his free throws among other things.

Both Luther and Assistant Coach Evans Davis are content with the progress the boys are making.

"I think today was acceptable, but as coaches we're always going to want it to be more," Davis said.

The Pirates scored 40 points in the second half, due to the team regaining their focus on their goal to win.



Chris Edwards made three of four three-pointers en route to 14 points against UNC-Pembroke on Jan. 22.

Photo by Andrea Cervone

# Pirates take on Bearcats in double 'blackout' bout

## Men snuff Lander 71-62

## Ladies left in the dark

By Brittany Hodges  
Sports.Inkwell@gmail.com

The Pirates hosted the Lander Bearcats for a blackout game in the Alumni Arena on Wednesday, Jan. 19. This game was big for the Pirates as they came out on top over the Bearcats, led by ex-Armstrong coach Jeff Burkhamer.

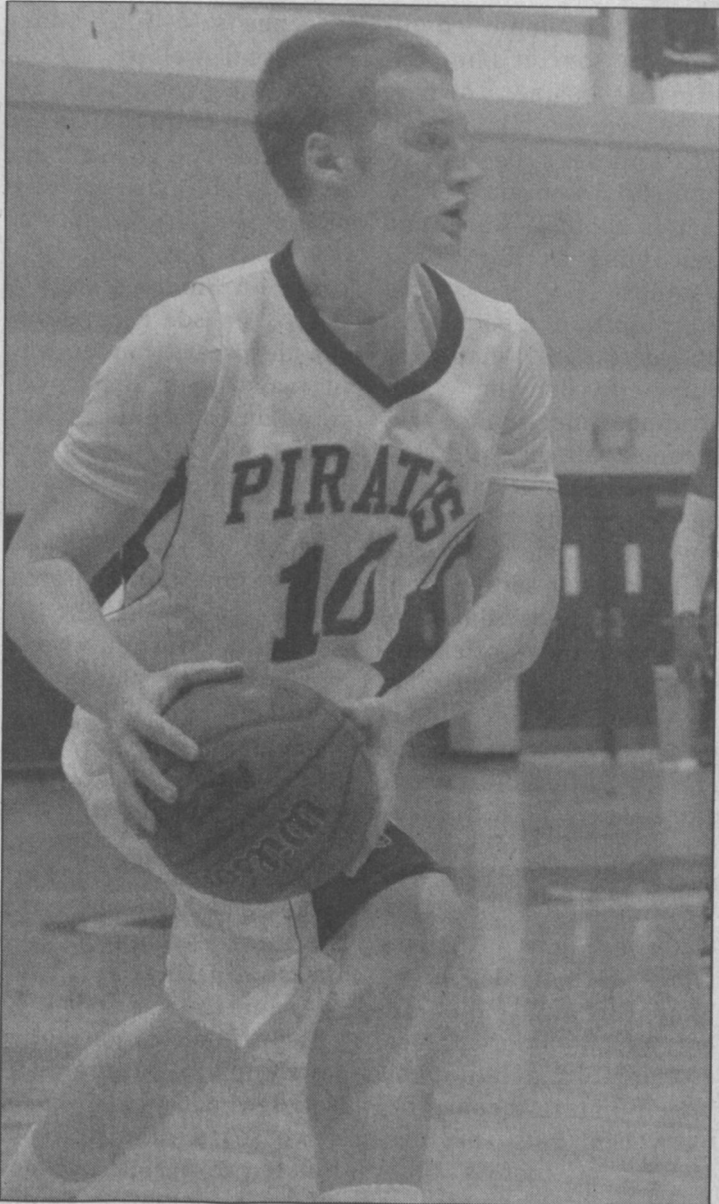
The second straight win for the Pirates, the blackout game improved their record at home to 6-2. Lander, on the other hand, lost four of their last five games. Armstrong netted 17 of 30 shots in the first half. The score at halftime was 40-27, with the Pirates leading. The Pirates expanded the lead to 15 points on three different occasions.

In the second half, the Bearcats went on a 22-7 run to tie the game 60-all with four minutes left in the half. After Jesse Wheeler and Chris Vanlandingham sunk their shots with 1:32 left in the half, the Pirates were up 66-60. The Pirates hit five out of six free throws in the last 30 seconds to pull away with the win.

Wheeler finished with 17 points, while Chris Edwards had 13 points. Vanlandingham had 12 points, and Grant Domsic had 10 points.

Jermel Kennedy and David Pruett led Lander with 16 points each. Pruett played for the Pirates in the 2009-10 season.

The blackout game was a success, netting a season-high crowd of 1,506 attendees. Keyshore Williams, who scored six points during the game, was quite pleased with the attendance.



Chris Vanlandingham scored 12 points on Jan. 19 against Lander.

Photo by Andrea Cervone

"We had a good turnout with the fans because it was the biggest crowd of the season," Williams said. "Next game we want the same crowd and to finish off our opponents when we have them down."

Junior point guard Mychal Horn was glad the team was able to pull away and come out with the win despite a few mishaps.

"We played well and had a few costly mistakes," Horn said. "Our main focus, though, is keeping

our leads because that's our biggest flaw, but we are getting better."

The Pirates know they aren't perfect and plan on working on keeping the lead. Williams said the team needs to play hard for 40 minutes and not give up easy leads.

"Defense won the game and everybody played with energy," he said.

By Katie R. Balcom

Armstrong hosted the blackout basketball game on Wednesday, Jan. 19 in Alumni Arena against No. 1-ranked Lander Lady Bearcats. The Lady Bearcats took control of the lady Pirates early, leaving the Lady Pirates fighting the entire game.

The Armstrong student body dressed in all black to cheer the home team on against Lander. Unfortunately for Pirates fans, the blacked-out crowd left a dark cloud over the Lady Pirates as they fought hard to keep up with the No. 1-ranked team in the Peach Belt Conference.

Armstrong (7-8, 3-4 PBC) took a loss to the undefeated Lander (18-0, 8-0 PBC). The Lady Bearcats took the win with room to spare over the host team 88-71.

"I feel we played with a lot of heart against the No. 1 team in the nation," said Lady Pirates forward/guard Brooke Long. "The outcome isn't what we wanted but that's competitive sports for you."

The game slipped away from Armstrong quickly at halftime. Lander created a 17-point deficit, separating the teams as they headed into the locker room with the score standing at 39-22.

The Lady Pirates

attempted to come back in the second half, going on a 14-3-point run against Lander in two and a half minutes. The Lady Bearcats quickly responded by setting the floor on fire with their own 12-2-point spree pushing their lead to 62-40.

Both teams placed players into double digits. For the Lady Pirates, Arpine Amirkhanyan and Mauri Wells both added 17 points apiece, while Long put up 13 points. Ashley Slade also put up 7 points.

The ladies of Lander played hard and scored high. Mukia Myrick scored 18 points, Shannon Mckever put up another 17, while Ciara Lyons added an impressive 22 points.

The final score of the game racked up to an 88-71 Lander finish. Although the Lady Pirates did not take home the win, it was only



Ashley Slade scored seven points on Jan. 19 against Lander in the Alumni Arena.

Photo by Andrea Cervone

the second time in history that Armstrong has faced a top-ranked team.

"I feel we played hard and gave a good effort against the No. 1 team," Wells said. "I was proud of the way we played the entire game — we just have to use the same energy and effort throughout the rest of the season."



# Pirates tee up for baseball season

By Katie R. Balcom

It's that time of year again when the cracking of bats and the popping of leather resonate from Pirate Field.

Last season the Armstrong baseball team held a record of 27-23 and a 7-17 record in the Peach Belt Conference. The Pirates were picked to finish eighth the 2011 season in the Peach Belt Conference.

"I feel very optimistic about this season," said right-handed pitcher Chris Base. "We have a lot of new players added to this year's team and I feel like every one of them can play a big part this season."

"Last year we had a down year, but this year I feel like we have the right players to make some noise in the conference."

The new season brings new changes to the dugout.

The Pirates have 10 returning players from the 2010 season including All Peach Belt Conference catcher John Roberts (.387, 11 HR, 49 RBI). Sixteen new Pirates will join the return-



File Photo

ing players on the field.

"I'm very excited to play my first season as a Pirate," said new shortstop Alex Frederick. "I was worried about the transition from UNC-Greensboro, but we have a very good team and a great bunch of guys that are ready to win."

"We should be a force in the Peach Belt this year," he said.

The team is still under the helm of coach Joe Roberts, now in his 32nd year as Armstrong's head coach.

Assistant coaches Calvin Culberson and Chris Smith join Roberts for the 2011 season.

With all the new additions to the team, the players will also swing new bats. The Pirates in previous seasons used composite-style bats at the plate. This season, however, only all-aluminum bats are permitted in the league.

The team practiced with the new bats during the preseason in order to better prepare themselves for the

spring. But with the change comes some concern.

"I feel like the changes with the bats will ...[make] it more of a pitcher's game and make the game safer, but they have zero pop," John Roberts said. The catcher also led the Pirates with 11 home runs last season.

"It's going to make defense, pitching and small-ball even more important," Frederick said. "And I think the high-scoring games won't be as common in the

## Pirates' Plunder

Armstrong Sports Trivia, previews and more

Compiled by Brittany Hodges



### Armstrong Sports Trivia

1. How many seniors are on the 2010-11 Armstrong softball team?
2. Who is the head coach of the Armstrong softball team?
3. What place did league officials pick the Lady Pirates to finish in the PBC 2010-11 preseason poll?
4. How many years has Ted Evans been the softball coach?
5. Who are the assistant coaches of the softball team?

Check your answers at the bottom of the page.

## Armstrong Softball at the top of PBC preseason poll

Sports Communications

The Armstrong softball team was picked to finish second in the Peach Belt Conference for 2011 in a preseason poll of the league's coaches.

The Lady Pirates are picked behind only defending PBC and Southeast Region champion North Georgia, who was the unanimous pick to repeat as league champions. North Georgia received all 10 possible first-place votes for 100 points. Armstrong received 81 points in the poll, picked to finish ahead of Francis Marion (73) and Augusta State (70) — all NCAA Southeast Regional participants a year ago.

Flagler (66) was picked to finish fifth this season, followed by UNC Pembroke (54), USC Aiken (50), Columbus State (42), Lander (37), Georgia College (19) and Georgia Southwestern (13).

Armstrong returns nine starters from last season's



Sports Communications

Baillie Temples strokes her triple into the outfield, finishing 5-for-7 with three RBIs last year in the 2010 season.

squad that finished 33-20 and advanced to the NCAA Southeast Regional for the eighth time in the last 10 seasons. PBC hits leader April Jowers, All-Region third baseman Baillie Temples and two-time PBC Pitcher of the Week Megan Barnwell lead the returnees for head coach Ted Evans.

The Pirates captured their only PBC regular season title in 2000 and Armstrong has finished second in the league standings on three other occasions — in 2002, 2004 and 2008.

Armstrong opens the 2011 season Feb. 4 at the Georgia Southwestern Invitational in Americus.

## UNC-Pembroke sprints to 87-56 win over Lady Pirates

Sports Communications

UNC-Pembroke used a 16-0 run early in the first half to jump out to a 22-point halftime lead and cruise to an 87-56 Peach Belt Conference women's basketball victory over host Armstrong on Jan. 22 in Savannah.

The Lady Braves (7-10, 3-6 PBC) won their second straight league game while handing the Lady Pirates (7-9, 3-5 PBC) their fourth straight loss.

Last year when these two teams met in Savannah, the Lady Pirates overcame a 16-point second-half deficit to force overtime and come away with a three-point win. This year, the Lady Braves would make sure early that no comeback would be possible. With the Lady Braves leading 6-4 three minutes into the contest,

UNC-Pembroke embarked on a 16-0 run over the next four minutes to make the score 22-4 with 13:06 left in the first half.

The Lady Braves stretched that lead to 22 at halftime, 44-22, and then began the second half on an 18-3 run in the first five and a half minutes to remove all doubt. UNC-Pembroke shot 51.5 percent for the game (34-of-66) and forced the Lady Pirates to shoot just 33.3 percent (20-of-60).

DeDe Cotten led a trio of UNC-Pembroke players in double figures with 18 points, while JaToya Kemp added 16 points and Briana Stanton came off the bench for 12 points.

AshleySladeledArmstrong with 13 points, including 3-of-6 three-pointers, while Marissa Rimbert chipped in 10 second-half points.



Braves

## Tennis players make 2011 preseason All-Peach Belt Conference team

Sports Communications

League officials voted three members of the Armstrong men's tennis team to the 2011 preseason All-Peach Belt Conference team.

The Pirates represent half of the six-player squad. Junior Eudaldo Bonet joins Armstrong seniors Rafael Array and Mikk Irdoja on the team.

Array and Irdoja teamed to capture the ITA Super Bowl doubles title this past fall, and the duo will enter the 2011 spring season as

the top-ranked doubles team in NCAA Division II. In addition, Irdoja ranked No. 4 in singles beginning this spring after finishing his sophomore season as the top-ranked singles player in Division II. He earned the Peach Belt Conference Player of the Year honors as well. Array, meanwhile, will begin the 2011 season ranked No. 13 in singles.

Bonet is the highest-ranked player in the Peach Belt in singles going into the spring season, coming in at No. 2 in the fall ITA Division II rankings. A former No. 1-ranked singles

player, Bonet earned All-Conference and All-America honors as a freshman and sophomore for the Pirates.

Three members of the three-time defending NCAA Division II champion Armstrong women's tennis team have been named to the 2011 Preseason All-Peach Belt Conference squad.

Three Lady Pirates comprise half of the six-player squad. Junior Kathleen Henry joined seniors Alida Muller-Wehlau and Tina Ronel on the squad.

Muller-Wehlau begins

the 2011 season as the top-ranked singles and doubles player in NCAA Division II, according to the fall ITA national rankings. A three-time ITA All-American and All-PBC player, Muller-Wehlau teamed with freshman Barbora Krtickova to claim the ITA "Super Bowl" doubles title. The duo also captured the ITA Indoor National Championship consolation bracket. The Flensburg, Germany, native was 24-1 in singles play during the 2010 dual match season, and 29-2 in doubles.

Henry enters her third

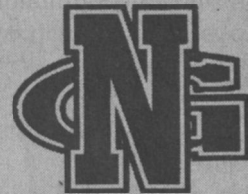
season with the Pirates with a career-best No. 25 national singles ranking coming into the spring season. The Anderson, S.C., native was a perfect 32-0 in singles play during the 2010 dual match season while also going 29-4 in doubles.

The doubles partner for Henry, Tina Ronel finished the 2010 spring season with a No. 25 national singles ranking. She also earned All-Peach Belt Conference singles honors. The Gosier, Guadeloupe, native went 20-4 in singles play a season ago.

## On the horizon

### Men's Basketball:

Jan. 29



at North Georgia

Feb. 2



at Flagler

### Women's Basketball:

Jan. 29



at North Georgia

Feb. 2



at Flagler

## Weekly Sports Recap

By Brittany Hodges  
Sports.Inkwell@gmail.com

### Women's Basketball:

Jan. 19, vs. Lander L 88-71

Jan. 22, vs. UNC Pembroke L 87-56

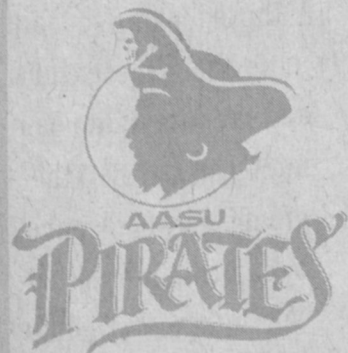
### Men's Basketball:

Jan. 19, vs. Lander W 71-62

Jan. 22, vs. UNC Pembroke W 67-65

### Armstrong Sports Trivia

1. There are four seniors on the 2010-11 Armstrong softball team.
2. Ted Evans is the head coach of the Armstrong softball team.
3. League officials have picked the Lady Pirates to finish second in the PBC preseason poll.
4. Ted Evans enters his seventh season as the head coach of the softball team.
5. The assistant coaches are Ashley Bain and Nicole Huddleston.





ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

**Jan. 27:** Armstrong's Department of Language, Literature and Philosophy presents Jim Warner's "PSGA Poetry Reading Series" at Telfair Museum at 7:30 p.m.

**Jan. 28:** Armstrong provides a free screening of the documentary "Trouble the Water" in Ogeechee Theater at 1 p.m.

The Campus Union Board presents magician and hypnotist McVicar the Trickster in the Savannah Ballroom at 8 p.m.

Performances, disputes rock Open Mic Night

By Terrence Major and Maggie Stone

For several years, Armstrong students have been able to unleash their creativity with the support of the student body at Campus Union Board's monthly Open Mic Night.

On Monday, Jan. 24, poets, comedians and musicians competed with disruptions from both audience members and performers for attention.

CUB plans and organizes most of the entertainment on campus. As a branch of CUB, the Visual and Performing Arts Committee created the series and hosts the monthly events.

David Warren, founder of Open Mic Night and former VPAC chairman, created the monthly open mic night in response to what he said was a need for a creative outlet for spoken word.

"I want people to feel comfortable sharing their art with each other," Warren said. "When I came up with the idea, I wanted to give people a place to share their art and not be judged for it."

Warren jump-started the night by reciting his poem "Wall Paper Heart," but said his performance of, "Dying On Paper" that night was most relevant to the event. He talked about what he described as the joys and horrors of being passionate for the arts.

"The point is that you have something in your heart, and you feel like it's what you were created to do," he said.

"You learn so much from getting on stage in front of people. It teaches me about myself. I just hope that my sharing my poetry will inspire other people to do the same."

Several performers did, in fact, follow Warren's lead, and performed without any problems.

Camille Kadhum, a regu-

lar Open Mic Night musician, rocked the Savannah Ballroom with her new song "Must Forget About You." The crowd responded with overwhelming applause.

Tri-Sigma member Chelsea Hampton said she considered Kadhum to be the night's main attraction.

"I came here to see Camille, of course," Hampton said.

Following Kadhum, Janaea Watkins delivered "My Finger is Twitching," and then Wesley Wells, also known as Pi-Rate, rapped his original music.

Wells said he believes Armstrong students can relate to the topics of his songs.

"I've been rapping since last September, and I like to do it so I can bring unity within students and give them something they can all come together about," Wells said.

While some students come for the poetry and music, other students, such as Kyle Ingram, are attracted to the event simply for the humor.

"I love the humorous performances like Dude and Three Knot Dudes and Pi-Rate," Ingram said.

The crowd burst into laughter at Dude and Three Knot Dudes' song, "I Will Send You a Note Written in Papyrus Because You Hate It and I Hate You," as well as their cover of Cee Lo Green's "Forget You."

While the night might have been fun for many, a couple of events transpired that seemed to discomfort audience members and some performers.

Although sex is a popular topic for poetry at these events, some performances were so graphic that students walked out of the Savannah Ballroom.

In addition to this, rap group Steely and Lil' Bro caused a ruckus on stage. The group became angry with the crew for not knowing which song to play. The



Photos by Greg Pearson

The newly formed band Dude and Three Knot Dudes perform their own rendition of "Forget You" by Cee Lo Green at Open Mic Night on the night of January 24.

situation escalated and the organizers cut the performance short.

But that wasn't the event's only disruption. At times, the crowd ridiculed performers and at one point chatted through an entire performance. Warren attributes these disruptions to a lack of preparation for the event.

"Some of the performances were explicit, even using the N-word and yelling at the sound guy," Warren said.

"As far as the comments from the crowd, it blew me away," he said.

"We've had that problem in the past, but it was never that bad fall semester. I would make the announcement in the beginning to take a phone call outside and to be respectful to the performers."

"I had to make that announcement three times last night."

Newly minted VPAC chair Alisha Barnes took the reins for the event, and the committee will be working on making the transition seamless.

Warren stayed on for this month's event to offer support and shadow Barnes.

"I was worried about stepping down from the position," Warren said.

"It was my baby. It became really popular."

Even though the last Open Mic Night did not quite go as planned, Warren said his hopes are high for the next installment. He said he believes VPAC will work together to fix some of the problems in the future.

"VPAC should set some guidelines," Warren said.

"We don't necessarily want to censor the students, though. Last year, I met with all the performers before the show so I could tell them the guidelines beforehand. The anniversary show was one of our most successful because I did that."

Warren urges students to uphold his ideals behind Open Mic Night, which for him are all about a student body supporting the arts free of criticism.

"I believe in having this on campus for the students," he said.

"Having people listen to me while I pour my heart out, I learn so much. Just getting in front of a crowd will teach you so much about yourself."



Miss Lucia, a member of a local band and one of the performers at Open Mic Night, sings the song "Unthinkable" by Alicia Keys on Jan. 24.

"For me, it's all about respect and support from the student body for the arts," Warren said.

"Hopefully it will become a tradition."

Anime, sci-fi fantasy clubs offer on-campus gaming Gamers anticipate rise in participation, new tournaments

By Shawn Evans

Over the past few years, gaming events at Armstrong have gained momentum. With the most recent surge of freshmen, several gaming groups on campus say the future looks bright.

Two groups on campus, the Armstrong Anime Club and the Armstrong Sci-Fi and Fantasy Club, are dedicated to maintaining the gaming presence and seeing the scene flourish.

"Our big goal for this year is a 'reach out' thing, since there are so many freshmen on campus," said president of the Armstrong Sci-Fi and Fantasy Club Dylan Coffey.

Coffey considers this a moderate success, as the club has been able to gain the support of many like-minded individuals through their Facebook page "AASU Gamer's Guild," but there's been one major problem.

"There have been a lot of new people joining the Facebook group, but there haven't been a lot of new faces showing up to any

events," Coffey said.

The Sci-Fi and Fantasy Club regularly offers the chance to play tabletop games like "Warhammer" as well as participate in some of their Avegost LARP (live action role playing) demonstrations.

Avegost is a Savannah-based LARP group run by Sci-Fi and Fantasy Club Vice President Joe Landolfi, who writes the story and creates the rules for the club.

"It takes place in an entirely original setting, so it's not based on any other fictional world," Coffey said. "The events are held once a month, on the second weekend of each month."

There is, however, one gaming medium into which the busy Sci-Fi and Fantasy Club does not delve.

"No video game stuff. That's usually Anime Club turf," Coffey said.

"We would like to do a 'history-of-gaming' event spanning three weeks where we celebrate major video-game titles representing each genre."



Photos courtesy of Gregory Ayersman

The Avegost PLOT team, the creators of the story lines and adventures for Four Rivers at an October 2010 LARP event.

"We're putting all of the pieces together now," he said. "We want to have the real stuff."

Those interested in console gaming sooner rather than later can join the Anime club every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. for anime-viewing and some gaming setups.

"We're currently trying

to organize tournaments for 'Super Street Fighter 4,' 'Marvel vs. Capcom,' and 'Halo,'" said Anime Club secretary Christian Wright.

"I'm trying to get copies of 'Marvel vs. Capcom 3' early so I can hold a tournament the weekend before the official release," he said. "If I don't get copies of the game early, then I plan on

holding the tournament on Feb. 18."

Wright has big plans for these tournaments, such as awarding cash prizes to the winners.

"Hopefully there will be a good turn out and if there is, we will certainly be interested in holding more tournaments."

Those looking to learn more about these clubs and the Armstrong gaming scene can visit the groups' Facebook pages by searching for either "AASU Gamer's Guild" or "AASU Anime Club."



# Arts high school hosts 'Junk 2 Funk' fashion show

## A unique 'trashion' show displays original pieces of untraditional fashion

By Matthew Harrell

For many designers, the moment of triumph arrives when they finally parade their vision down the catwalk.

A handful of local art students will know that feeling when Savannah Arts Academy hosts its third annual "Junk 2 Funk" fashion show Saturday, Jan. 29.

Two years ago, Trellis Payne of Savannah Arts organized the school's first "Junk 2 Funk" show.

What began as a small show in a studio has developed into a large-scale, elaborate function, with two former "Project Runway" contestants serving as judges.

The show features work by students of all majors, grades 9-12, who design, model, perform and construct props. Even student photographers participated in the two-day publicity shoot for the show.

When asked to define wearable art, Savannah Arts students didn't skip a beat.

"It's everyday items made into functional fashion," said visual arts major Courtney Curtsinger.

Unlike mundane trends of the past, Savannah Arts works all showed promise. It was most evident in the classroom as models walked by in coats made of shredded paper, wigs cut from mop heads and many other creations.

The question may be raised of whether or not wearable art could be incor-



Photo courtesy of Tim Almodovar  
Savannah Arts Academy student Carolynne Heebner models "Marry Me, You Animal."

porated into modern fashion. Senior vocal major Eric Eaton points out that many celebrities already sport it on the red carpet, such as Lady Gaga.

"I look forward to the day that I can walk into a retail clothing store and see wearable art for sale," Eaton said.

Even if Savannah Arts hasn't made the direct translation to modern fashion, they certainly intend to keep moving in that direction.

Curtsinger said there will be many changes in this year's "Junk 2 Funk" compared to previous years.

"This year we have double the garments, as well as a new bridal section," she said.

The show's founder and director, Payne, said she is excited to see the show grow in size and have more students eager to participate.

"The students must organize a portfolio to get into

the class, and once it all gets started, everyone has a great time," Payne said.

Awards will be given out as judged by the "Junk Jury," which consists of two former "Project Runway" contestants, Mitchell Hall and April Johnston.

Even under the scrutiny of professional fashion designers, the students are more proud to show off their work rather than nervous about the final outcome.

"I'm not nervous at all," Eaton said.

"When I designed my piece, I pushed the envelope ... I feel no pressure at all."

Buzz surrounding the event has caught on to Armstrong's fashion enthusiasts as well. Freshman Brittany Shired is an alumna of Savannah Arts who performed in the show last year.

"I think it is awesome," Shired said.

"Fashion is art and to be able to create it from uncon-



Photo courtesy of Audrey Baechle  
Savannah Arts Academy student Charlotte Suozzo models "Little Debbie."

The "Junk 2 Funk" fashion show will also offer recycled accessories, such as bangles, for sale to attendants. All proceeds benefit the Visual Arts Department of Savannah Arts Academy.

**4 p.m. matinee**

**\$7 for general admission, \$5 for Savannah Arts students**

**7 p.m. awards show**

**\$10 for general admission, \$7 for Savannah Arts students**

ventional material is amazing and challenges true creativity."

Armstrong junior Christopher Thronton said he thought the fashion show

would be interesting.

"I think the idea is very creative," he said.

"I would definitely go to a show that features these types of creations."

# Portman, Kutcher play friends with benefits

## New romantic comedy could become cult classic

By Natalie Terrazola

A relationship with a woman who only wants sex and no commitment is a deluded fantasy. "No Strings Attached" exposes all the real-life problems attached to this kind of friends-with-benefits situation.

In the movie, Emma (Natalie Portman) uses Adam (Ashton Kutcher) to fulfill her sexual desires without requiring any commitment.

The movie assumes the audience is familiar with couples who have experimented with a "sex-buddy" relationship and its consequences. Emma and Adam are no different in having to clean up after an emotional tornado of repercussions.

Specifically, the romantic comedy plays off a gender stereotype — that women become emotionally involved quicker than men — by reversing the gender scripts.

The film starts out innocently enough. Adam and Emma are childhood friends who bump into each other out of the blue.

Emma's flaw is that she is a commitment-phobic medical student working more than 80 hours per week, which leaves no time for a social life.

On the other end of the spectrum, Adam is a production assistant who has indulged too freely in matters of the heart. Adam's most recent catastrophe came after his father, a famous actor, dated his ex-girlfriend.

This might sound like a rehased rom-com plot, but the over-the-top humor masks this with prowess.



Natalie Portman, left, as Emma and Ashton Kutcher as Adam co-star in "No Strings Attached."

"No Strings Attached" takes the audience on a raunchy but hilarious journey with Adam and Emma as they blunder through their unwritten sex-pact using their own rules.

After having sex for the first time, they establish this pact in order to preserve their friendship. The social contract includes: no jealousy, no crying and no pointless phone calls. Adam adds, "No calling my penis cute, even if it's dressed like a Care Bear."

Their frequent "sex dates" take place in a public restroom, a hospital exam room, a custodian's closet, and even in the hospital parking lot. Pretty much any secluded area in a 5-foot radius of Emma and Adam is fair game.

However, the fun and games develop into an emo-

tional relationship as the pair begins to support each other through family issues.

As Emma sees the emotional connection unfold, she recoils from Adam as if he were on fire. She claims the fear is on par with having an allergic reaction to peanuts.

Like any two immature lovers in denial, the pair brainstorm the great idea to casually date other people. Supposedly they intend for this shallow move to help them ignore their feelings for other, and ultimately the perils of monogamy.

Both, however, soon find out that their relationship can be deeper than just sexual penetration.

Overall, what the film lacks in plot, it makes up for in humor.

The cast will have you rolling in your seat. Everyone knows Kutcher can be a goof ball, but it's a pleasant surprise to see that Portman can actually be funny.

Following her intense, dark and outstanding performance in "Black Swan" it's a refreshing change of pace to see Portman lighten up.

For anyone who cringed at the thought of Portman in a rom-com, the talented actress continues to show that she can take on any role and shine.

If the cast alone won't sell you, the dialogue certainly will.

Elizabeth Meriwether's script is ripe with witty, biting humor, outrageous slang, and laugh-out-loud moments on level with "Superbad."

The only thing to knock

about this movie is the predictable ending. However, you will enjoy this movie so much you will barely notice.

For those who enjoy crude humor, "No Strings Attached" is a must-see.

★★★★★

4.5 stars out of 5  
A Paramount Pictures Production

Directed by Ivan Reitman.

Starring Natalie Portman, Ashton Kutcher, Greta Gerwig and Kevin Kline.

Rated R for sexual content, language and some drug material.

**Stay  
Entertained**  
in Savannah

**THINK**music

On Friday, Jan. 28, New York progressive rockers Consider the Source take the stage at The Wormhole on Bull Street. Cover to be announced.

The Back Pockets perform with Savannah's Lady Lazarus at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29, at The Sentient Bean on Park Avenue. Suggested donation is \$5.

On Sunday, Jan. 30, at 5 p.m., Muse Arts Warehouse on Louisville Road hosts "Vinyl Appreciation No. 10." Admission is \$3 at the door.

Also Sunday, Cha Bella on Broad Street hosts their "Savannah Songwriter Series" at 6 p.m. Admission is free.

**THINK**Movies

From Thursday, Jan. 27, to Saturday, Jan. 29, Muse Arts Warehouse hosts the eighth annual Psychotronic Film Festival. The festival features two films per night for \$8 each or \$15 for a double feature. Screenings are at 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. each night.

On Saturday, Jan. 29, Mom and Pop's Westside Cinema on U.S. 80 screens cult classic "Rocky Horror Picture Show." A live performance by the cast starts at midnight to accompany the screening. Tickets are \$6.75.

On Wednesday, Feb. 2, at 8 p.m. The Psychotronic Film Society screens 1972 rattlesnake-revenge thriller "Stanley" at The Sentient Bean on Park Avenue at 8 p.m.

**THINK**Art

From Thursday, Jan. 27, to Sunday, Jan. 30, Telfair Museums hosts the Pulse Art and Technology Festival at Jepson Center for the Arts. Admission is free for all exhibits, lectures and performances.

From Thursday, Jan. 27, to Tuesday, Feb. 1, Desoto Row Gallery on DeSoto Avenue exhibits "On the Wall" from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

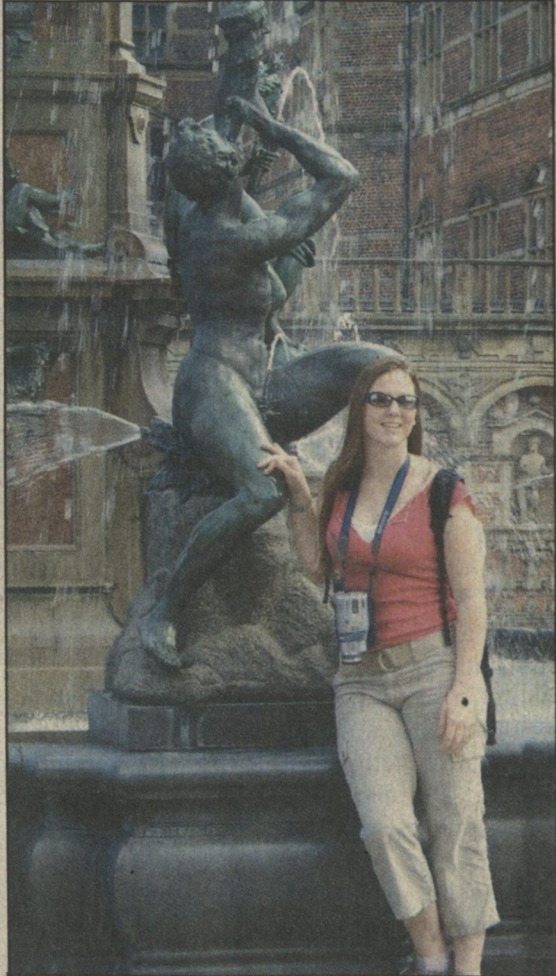
On Monday, Jan. 31, at 7 p.m., Faith Ringgold presents her art lecture, "Faith Ringgold on Art: Story Quilts and Freedom," at Trustees Theater on Broughton Street. Admission is free.



# See where studying abroad takes Armstrong students



Students trek with economics professor Richard McGrath over the Great Wall of China at Badaling, China, near the Mongolin border in May 2008.



Economics student Heather Smith poses in the courtyard of Frederiksborg Castle in Hillerød, Denmark.



Students Karen Stollon, Michael Gay and Shelly Robinson traveled to Kylemore Abbey east of Letterfrack, in Connemara, Ireland, in May 2006.



Armstrong students prepare to sail a replica Norse ship on Roskilde Fjord at the Vikingship Museum in Roskilde, Denmark, May 2005.



Liberal arts and nursing students visit the "Man Meets the Sea" sculptures on the North Sea in Esbjerg, Denmark, in May 2006.



The May 2008 China Study Abroad group traveled by speedboat from the Liujiaxia Dam up the Yellow River to visit the Buddhist grottoes at Bingling Si in southern Gansu Province in China.

## ABROAD | FROM PAGE 1

themselves seem to have found it to be the trip of a lifetime.

Timmy Vo went to Prague this past summer and encourages others to study abroad so they too can learn some of the same things that he did.

"It opens up your mind to a lot of different things, and it's just fun," Vo said. "It gave me a chance to experience a culture other than my own and that's a great chance to have."

Emily Thornton agrees that study abroad opens a student's mind and eyes. She was also surprised by how well she adapted to life without a car and air condition-

ing during her trip to Seville, Spain, last year.

"You realize that you're a lot stronger," she said. "You're a lot more independent."

Living in Effingham County, Thornton finds it a nuisance having to drive so far into Savannah, so living in a small city in Spain for a few weeks was a welcome relief.

"You're able to enjoy life more over there," she said. "There's no excuse not to get up and do something because it's right outside your door."

McGrath knows that the experiences students gain while studying abroad are ones that they never forget. He said that studying abroad gives students more oppor-

tunities than if they were simply going to travel somewhere on vacation. During his study abroad trip to China his students were able to take a guided tour of the Panda Reserve. A tour guide in Shanghai even took them home for genuine Chinese cuisine.

"With study abroad, your connection to the people is much stronger than if you travel as a tourist," McGrath said. "The social aspect is great for learning. The travel aspect of it is really interesting and fun, too. The places are interesting, but the people are the best part of the experience."

## QEP | FROM PAGE 2

money from somewhere," she said. "We do not want that to inhibit ideas, but we do have to be mindful of that."

After the steering committee chooses a QEP, the university will appoint members to a QEP Implementation Committee. This group will research, develop and write a 75 to 100 page recommendation, working with Armstrong's SACS team to achieve reaffirmation of accreditation.

Individuals interested in submitting ideas can visit the QEP website at [armstrong.edu/QEP](http://armstrong.edu/QEP). Resources with links to successful QEPs from other universities are included on the site as well.

## CRIME | FROM PAGE 1

A complainant's purse was stolen from the Student Union on Jan. 10. The complainant claimed she left the purse on a table outside the bookstore when she went to class at 1 p.m. When she returned at 2:15 p.m., the purse was missing. The purse contained \$20, a set of keys, make-up, a cancelled Wells-Fargo credit card, a Coastal Bank debit card, and a checkbook.

An officer responded to a complaint from Windward Commons on Wednesday, Jan. 19, at approximately 6 p.m. A complainant showed the officer a nine-square-inch hole in the wall of the west interior stairwell.

